

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Steven G. Fry, Shantanu Sarkar

Assignee:

Cisco Technology, Inc.

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS SUPPORTING NETWORK

COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH A FIREWALL

Serial No.:

09/456,692

Filed:

December 9, 1999

Examiner:

Carl G. Colin

Group Art Unit:

2136

Docket No.:

CIS0044US

Austin, Texas April 30, 2004

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAY 0 5 2004

Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated March 11, 2004, having a shortened statutory period expiring on June 11, 2004. Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

Amendments to the Specification. No Amendments to the Specification are presented in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 23 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 24 of this paper.

- 1 -

Serial No.: 09/456,692